



# BERLIN WATER WORKS

## OFFICE OF THE WATER COMMISSION

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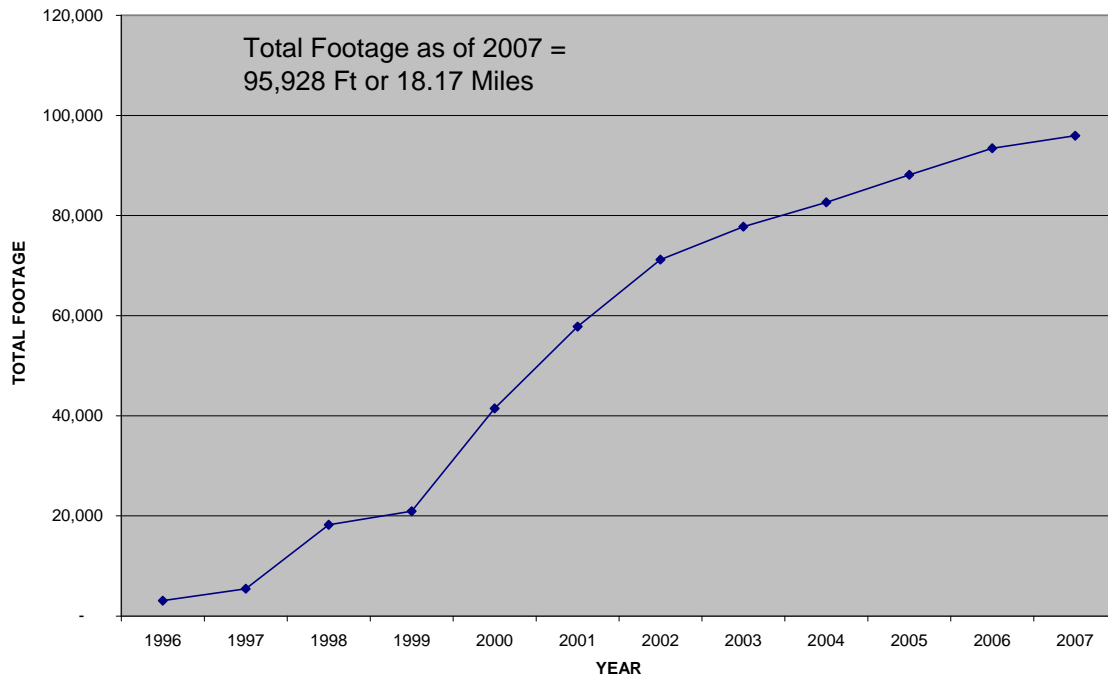
The Berlin Water Works Board of Water Commissioners is interested in informing their customers that 12 years have past since the Department's major focus on the BWW distribution system improvements.

To-date, Berlin Water Works Vision and Mission Statement has focused significant Department efforts on Federal and State Regulation Compliance, reducing operating costs, improving fire protection capabilities, reduction of main line breaks, reduction of small diameter galvanized water mains, and 1890-1930 vintage un-lined cast iron water mains with lead joints, and the reduction of winter running water situations.

The BWW distribution system has approximately 50 miles (264,000 feet) of water mains and the associated service lines for 3400 customers. Below is a table and chart showing change in type of water mains, the pre and post status, and the number of feet of new water mains installed in the last 12 years.

BERLIN WATER WORKS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM – WATER MAIN DATA				
DECEMBER 2007 (IN MILES)				
STATUS	GALVANIZED SMALL DIA MAINS	CAST IRON -UNLINED PRE-1930 MAINS	OTHER - HDPE & CAST & DUCTILE IRON MAINS	TOTAL WATER MAINS
IN 1996	14	14	20	48
IN 2005	.5	9	40.5	50
	1st PRIORITY	2nd PRIORITY	OK	-
	TO REPLACE	TO REPLACE	AS IS	-

#### WATER LINE CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS



With the Improvements completed to-date, the number of water leaks has been reduced significantly. For the next several years, the Berlin Water Works staff will continue to perform the water main replacement improvement projects with “forced account” funded by the \$2,400,000 balance of NHDES & USDA Rural Development Grant funding. This remaining Grant funding will support 2 to 3 years of planned improvement projects.

The Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Berlin Water Works has signed a \$2,088,000 contract to install a water service line and provide water to the new proposed prison in Berlin. The Berlin Water Works is planning to install the new water main with BWW crews and equipment. The project will be completed before October 1, 2008.

Unfortunately, all of these improvements have a price. Since 1993, Berlin Water Works has borrowed and expended over \$23,000,000 in Loans and have received \$19,000,000 in Grants. Currently in the Fiscal 2008 budget, the Berlin Water Works owes \$13 Million with annual payments at \$1.5 Million. The BWW water rates have not increased since 1998. The total Customer base has declined and the loss of the pulp mill account reduced revenue by more than 10%. New grant funding has not been available for the last two years and “forced account” can no longer be used to totally balance the budget. Over the last seven years the full time staff at the Berlin Water Works has been reduced from 18 to 13 employees in an effort to control our operating cost and help balance the budget.

It is with the above financial situation in mind that the Board of Water Commissioners is now reviewing a possible increase in the water rates to take effect in 2008. The current block water billing system is being reviewed with other more linear water billing systems.

To our customers, thank you for your cooperation and patience for dealing with delay's, and inconveniences created by our construction projects and waiting until we can improve your specific area. There still remains a significant amount of work to accomplished with limited resources. Steady progress is being made as can be seen by the above graft and our indicators that are being tracked.